

architecture of the middle ages, unable to distinguish the details and mouldings of one style from those of another, or to separate the good from the bad, and the beauties of one period from the blunders of another; believing safety, in fact, to consist in the total absence of all originality of design, the principle they prescribe to modern practice and to the architects of the nineteenth century is that of *servile imitation*. If a new church is to be designed, the doorways must be taken from this building, the windows from that, and the mouldings from a third; or, better than all, an entire church may be copied. If an old church has to be restored, every feature that it contains—good, bad, and indifferent, are alike to be repeated, even to the defects of the workmanship, and the blunders of the builders.”*

NOTES IN THE PROVINCES.

TIN Norwich Board of Health report that during the past year they have suppressed forty nuisances, and that their medical officer, by carrying out their plans for the prevention of small-pox, has added materially to the sanitary improvements of the city and hamlets.—A design for the Corn Exchange at Peterborough, by Mr. S. Hemming, has been adopted.—Our street pavements, says the Winchester correspondent of one of the Hampshire papers, are a curiosity, or rather a display of curiosities; not a very useful display certainly, for the whole globe seems to have been ransacked to find bad specimens of footway paving. Here you stumble and there you limp on rough Purbeck flattens; anon you dive and catch a catarrh in the holy depths of a lias formation, or stick in the mud over which patent asphalt and crackjaw bitumen possess such an attractive power. If you wish to take a comfortable walk on pavement, you must take a ship's-deck turn to and fro in front of the gaul, where the county authorities, in pity to the tender-footed and infirm of the city of Winchester, very considerably forewent experimenting, and laid down pavement fit to walk upon.—The subject of an esplanade at South Sea Beach, authorised by the Board of Ordnance, is to be brought before a public meeting of the inhabitants shortly. It is thought by some that measures ought rather to be taken “to cleanse and light the town, more especially as certain commissioners had reported that of the six dirtiest towns in England, Portsmouth obtained the filthy pre-eminence.”—The Secretary of State has confirmed an agreement entered into between the magistrates of the counties of Glamorgan, Carmarthen, Pembroke, and Cardigan, for the erection of a central lunatic asylum, to be erected in the western part of Glamorganshire. It is to contain 300 patients.—From the reports of the dean of Llandaff Cathedral, and the architects employed in the restorations, it appears that the funds received in 1847 amounted to 1,040*l.*, and that the expenditure was 573*l.*; secure resources still remaining, 2,700*l.* Of the expenditure of the present year, 450*l.* have been the outlay on the parapet and new windows at the eastern extremity of the two side aisles, and the works in clearing and repainting the Norman arch, and preparing the ground for future works. Both architects concur in recommending in the next place the perfect restoration of the eastern compartment of the choir, or presbytery, the architects believing that, by the complete restoration of this portion, with the construction of a new clerestory, and an entirely new and appropriate roof, the most efficient example will be given of the whole design. Failing funds, the works in the rest of the choir to be confined to the main or ground story, leaving temporarily the Italian clerestory, in that part, rather than, by attempting too much, to restore the whole imperfectly and partially.—Several improvements have been recently made in the parish church of Manorbier, near Tenby. Open oak seats have been substituted for an unsightly gallery of painted deal, which shut out all view of the font; the plans furnished by Mr. J. P. Harrison, architect of the church in course of erection at Pembroke-dock, and the wherewithal by Mr. Edward Wilson, a resident in the parish, who also con-

tributed to the substitution of an early English window of three lights, worked in blue limestone, in place of a square wooden sash which disfigured the west end of the church. Further restorations are contemplated.—The Polytechnic Institution, at Birmingham, is outgrowing the limits of its present accommodation in the Philosophie Institution-rooms, and a specific building for the institution has been recommended by a committee, on plans provided by Mr. Orford, architect, at an estimated cost of 3,000*l.*, fittings included: the building to have a theatre for 800, besides a gallery for the school pupils; and also a laboratory, male and female class-rooms, library and reading room, &c., and a room for public purposes. A suitable site had been secured in Upper Temple-street. It was suggested, however, at a meeting for consideration of the committee's report, that the present was a favourable opportunity for obtaining a building which would accommodate all the literary institutions in the town, in the desirableness of which Mr. Alderman Cutler, the recorder, and others, concurred, and ultimately the report was referred back to the committee, to take means to promote the proposed amalgamation.—The Corn Exchange Company at Wolverhampton have decided on the site in Smithfield, near Queen-street. The determination being distasteful, it is said, to many of the owners and occupiers of property in and near the Market-place, a proposal for the erection of a new Market-hall has been originated, and a Company, with a capital of 20,000*l.*, is now in course of formation.—A contemporary, in noticing the opening of St. Neot's Church, and a few of the most striking improvements effected, says that “the hideous galleries and pen-like pews have been completely swept away, the whole area furnished with carved oak stalls, low and open, and the floor lowered several feet to the level of the original pavement, so that the clustered columns of the nave, and indeed all the architectural features of the church, stand boldly out. The lectern and pulpit are of carved oak, by Mr. Rattee, of Cambridge. The restoration is far from completed,

Miscellaneous.

THE CLERGY AND BURIAL IN TOWNS.—It gladdens us to find the Rev. Dr. Jackson, the rector of St. James's, Westminster, heading a movement against intra-mural burials. A petition to Parliament for the abolition of the practice has been determined on, and a committee appointed to draw it up. The same parish have determined on petitioning against the window-tax, also.

MOVEMENT OF CYLINDERS OVER ROADS.—Sir: Respecting “E. A.'s” answer to my problem in a late number, I beg to state, that it appears to me that your correspondent must have overlooked the following observation, which is appended to that problem, namely:—“If it be admitted that as little power would be wasted by this method of crushing as by any other, it necessarily follows, that in any given time the power (*p*), pounds raised one foot per minute, would be sufficient to roll a particular cylinder (whose weight was proportionable to the hardness, &c., of the substance to be crushed), over the required quantity of the said substance (placed as aforesaid), and thereby crush the same.” Because I think your correspondent would otherwise have objected to that statement, previous to making his solution of the problem at variance with it. “That (*W*) will become greater the greater the cylinder,” is true only when the specific gravity continues the same, or becomes greater, more or less, the greater the cylinder. It will be observed that the problem is so worded that the motion of the cylinder may be supposed to be either uniform or variable, and not the former only, as your correspondent supposes. I cannot agree with your correspondent in supposing that P is evidently equal to $(P+p-m)$. For the purpose of eliciting further information on this subject, I shall conclude by asking the following question:—Would not less power be required (within certain limits) to perform the said work with a cylinder of the same weight as the given cylinder but of less specific gravity, and consequently greater in diameter?

J. W.

ELECTRO-TELEGRAPHIC PROGRESS.—It is proposed by Messrs. Brett, of Hanover-square, to establish an international communication, *ridé* Dover and Calais, by their printing telegraph. The English and French Governments have, it is said, conceded grants to the projectors, and the French Minister of the Interior, M. Duchatel, is understood to have expressed an ardent desire for the fulfilment of the undertaking, and promised to give it his cordial support. Experiments made with this telegraph, on land extending 146 miles between the points of communication, have been performed, it is said, with the same rapidity and certainty as at a distance of only a few feet.—A citizen of Edinburgh, sojourning in Manchester, lately received, by telegraph, an incidental call homewards to Edinburgh, which he reached (a distance of 289 miles each way) in twelve hours, whereas the same feat, only twelve months since, could not have been accomplished in less than three days, and even that, not long since, would have been a “world's wonder” in this age of miracles.

IMPROVEMENT IN SPRINGS.—A patent has been taken out by Mr. J. Woods, of Bucklersbury, for springs for supporting heavy bodies, and resisting sudden and continuous pressure; they are formed of flat plates of steel of equal thickness and breadth throughout, except at the two ends, in such manner that the weight shall tend to deflect the plate in its breadth, instead of its thickness, as has been usual. A plate of steel is wound round a cylindrical or square bar, in a spiral or volute form, hardened and tempered. To form the spiral springs a cast-iron mandril of the proper form is employed, furnished with a wrought-iron stem, collar, and cotter, and the plate of steel is hammered or rolled round it while hot, and then tempered. To obtain springs of different strengths, the breadth and thickness of the steel is varied, as also the pitch of the curve, by which means a higher or lower spiral is formed from the same plate.

INSTITUTION OF BUILDERS' FOREMEN.—The annual social meeting of the members and patrons of this commendable institution was held in Dowell's Tavern, St. Swithin's-lane, on Wednesday evening, Mr. Parker, architect, who is an honorary member, in the chair; when the third annual report by the auditors and Mr. W. Allard, the secretary, with a list of eighty members, was presented in a printed form to the meeting. The issue of the report in this form, it was stated, had been, and was still likely to be, highly beneficial; and in the mean time the committee congratulated the members on the steady progress of the institution. The total receipts for the past year amounted to 182*l.* odds, of which 66*l.* 1*s.* was still in hand, while 100*l.*, 3*d.* per cent. annuities, had been purchased on behalf of the charity fund, at 82*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* Small gifts to afflicted members had already been made. Further subscriptions and donations were announced at the meeting; the Chairman, in his address, remarking that, considering the comparatively unsettled position of the members while in the exercise of their calling, the difficulties of the establishment of such an institution had been, or were likely to be, much sooner and more effectually overcome than might have been anticipated, when its foundations were laid in 1842. The meeting was a numerous and highly respectable one, and the evening was passed in harmony and good order.

THE LATE MR. SEWARD, ARCHITECT.—This winter has been fatal to architects: Mr. Henry Blake Seward is to be added to the list of the departed. Mr. Seward was Assistant Surveyor-General of the Office of Works, to which situation he was appointed on the resignation of Mr. Robert Brown, a pupil of Sir William Chambers. Mr. Seward was an early member of the Institute of Architects.

GIVE EVERY MAN HIS OWN.—Sir: My object in addressing you is to call your attention to an article in your number of January 8, on the Bath Abbey, headed “Architectural Rebutals,” which you quote from the *Bedford Mercury*. Now, that article is an almost verbatim extract from my work “*Rambles about Bath*,” and I shall feel obliged by your stating this in your next publication.

JAMES TUNSTALL, M.D.

* Mr. Sharpe has completed, to a certain extent, his “*Architectural Parallel*.” We shall on an early occasion give it the attention it well deserves.

° See page 618, Vol. V.

* No. 4, Gloucester-buildings, Albion-place, Walworth-road.